

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph (added previously) that begins "Figure 9 is" as follows:

~~Figure 9a is an enlarged photomicrograph of a nonwoven web in an extended configuration in which more fibers of the web are oriented generally in the direction in which the web is extended~~ is a top plan view of an orientable non-woven loop material of the present invention prior to being oriented and secured to a backing substrate.

Figure 9b is a top plan view of the loop fastener of Fig. 8 with the loop material of Fig. 9a shown extended to orient constituent fibers of the loop material in the direction of the extension, and secured to the backing substrate.

On page 27, line 8, (as amended previously) please amend the paragraph beginning with "Figure 6 schematically shows" as follows:

Figure 6 schematically shows how a nonwoven can be drawn between two nips to orient the material. This drawing process also orients the fibers in the machine direction. Specifically, the drawing process of Figure 6 orients the nonwoven in the machine direction. This drawing process also orients the nonwoven fibers to be more aligned in the machine direction than in the cross direction. A nonwoven material, illustrated in Figure 6 as roll [[A]] 201, of a certain width is fed into a nip point or a draw control section, as illustrated in Figure 6 as nip [[B]] 203. The draw control point [[B]] 203 is running at a speed of x and controls the speed of the feeding nonwoven web. The nonwoven material is then drawn to a nip point or draw

control point [[C]] 205. Draw control point [[C]] 205 is running faster than draw control point [[B]] 203, which orients the nonwoven. The ratio of the speed of nip [[C]] 205 to the speed of nip [[B]] 203 is the draw ratio between the two nips. If the distance between nips [[B]] 203 and [[C]] 205 is relatively small, the drawing process does not substantially narrow, or neck, the web. If the distance between nips [[B]] 203 and [[C]] 205 is relatively large, the drawing process can narrow, or neck, the material in the cross direction to a greater extent. By adding nip points subsequent to nip [[C]] 205, the material can be oriented and/or necked further. By controlling the distance between nips [[B]] 203 and [[C]] 205 and subsequent nips and the draw ratios between the nip points, the degree of orientation of the web in the machine direction and the degree of necking of the web in the cross direction can be controlled. The nonwoven material thus oriented (e.g., with more fibers oriented generally in the machine direction (i.e., the direction of the draw) ~~as seen in the photomicrograph of Fig. 9~~) can be wound on a base roll or attached by bonder [[I]] 207 to another material [[H]] 209. The bonding can be accomplished by hot melt adhesive, ultrasonic bonds, thermal bonds, or any means well known in the art of bonding. Attachment to a substrate may also be accomplished by direct extrusion of a substrate polymer onto the extended nonwoven, or by means of calendering an extruded substrate directly to the extended nonwoven in a heated and/or patterned nip. The nonwoven can be wound to form a base roll [[D]] 211 to later be unwound into another assembly process (such as making a disposable training pant). Alternatively, this process for producing the oriented nonwoven loop material can be an

integral step in the assembling process for making a disposable training pant.

After the paragraph at page 27, line 8, (as amended above) that begins "Figure 6 schematically shows," please add the following new paragraph:

Figure 9a illustrates a non-woven material prior to the material being drawn and secured to a substrate such as the substrate 92 of Fig. 8. Figure 9b illustrates the non-woven material following drawing (e.g., extension) thereof to orient fibers of the material in the direction of draw and securement of the material (e.g., material 90) to the substrate 92 as shown in Fig. 8.

On page 28, line 8, please amend the paragraph that begins "Figure 7" as follows:

Figure 7 schematically shows how a nonwoven can be drawn in the cross machine direction to orient the material and its constituent fibers in the cross machine direction. Thus, the cross machine direction drawing process illustrated in Figure 7 orients the nonwoven in the cross machine direction and orients the fibers of the nonwoven in the cross machine direction. A nonwoven [[E]] 215 is unwound or fed into a side stretching section [[F]] 217. This side stretching section grips the side edges of the nonwoven and draws or extends the material in the cross machine direction as it moves in the machine direction of

the drawing process. Side stretching section [[F]] 217 may consist of multiple, sequential side stretching subsections. The nonwoven material can then be wound on a roll [[G]] 219, or fed into another process such as a disposable pant assembly process, or laminated to another material to stabilize the orientation of the fibers in the cross machine direction.